



# MONROE THIS WEEK

March 23, 2018 806 W. Main Street, Monroe WA, 98272 Vol 4/Edition 12  
Phone - 360-794-7400



## GREETINGS FROM MAYOR THOMAS

*Hello! Thank you for reading my weekly newsletter. I am grateful to serve the Monroe community and look forward to hearing from you. If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments for "Monroe This Week" or the articles included, please do not hesitate to contact me.*

*I can be reached at [gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov). Thank you!*

*Yours in Service,*

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas



## MAYOR HAPPENINGS

### Monroe Community Coalition Meeting

Like you, my heart aches as I see families torn apart by violence across our country. And, like you, I continue to be concerned about our community and our schools. On Monday, March 19th, the Monroe Coalition held a meeting at Monroe High School where a panel answered questions about what our school and city are doing to reduce the likelihood of violence in our schools and to prepare students on how to react if something does happen. Over the next several weeks, the Monroe Community Coalition, Monroe High School, and City of Monroe Police Department will have articles in Monroe this Week about the work we are doing in our community and our schools. This work includes responses like: student threat assessment teams; rapid responders; ending the "code of silence;" "move, evade, defend" training; connecting students to trusted adults at school; school safety officers; and providing access to mental health therapists and social workers. The City Council, Monroe School District, and I am looking to partner together to improve school and community safety. For more information, please check out the Monroe Community Coalition page [here](#) and watch for future articles in Monroe This Week.

### S.O.D.A./Sit/Lie Ordinance

On Tuesday, March 20, 2018, the City Council voted to approve a S.O.D.A. (Stay Out of Drug Area) and a Sit/Lie Ordinance.

The "Stay Out of Drug Areas (SODA)" allows the City to designate a SODA zone within the city to deter drug-related criminal activity. It allows judges to give orders to individuals who are convicted of a drug-related crime in a particular area to prevent them from returning to that area. We are looking at designating the downtown area and are currently analyzing crime statistics, citizen and business complaints, and police observations to determine the boundaries for the SODA zone. We hope the

### Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas

[gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov)

### Councilmembers

Jason Gamble, Mayor Pro Tem

Patsy Cudaback

Kevin Hanford

Ed Davis

Jim Kamp

Jeff Rasmussen

Kirk Scarboro

[councilmembers@monroewa.gov](mailto:councilmembers@monroewa.gov)

## EVENT HAPPENINGS

3/22 – 3/25	WSQHA – No Silver/No Sequin Horse Show, Evergreen Fairgrounds, 8AM-6PM
03/27	City Council Special Meeting/Workshop, City Hall, Council Chambers, 5:30PM

## City of Monroe Year-to-Date Comparisons

### Sales Tax Revenues

'17 to 02/28/17: \$869,788

'18 to 02/28/18: \$891,661

**UP \$21,873 or 2.51%**

### Real Estate Excise Tax

'17 to 02/28/17: \$150,585

'18 to 02/28/18: \$348,141

**UP \$197,556 or 131.19%**

### Lodging Tax Revenues

'17 to 02/28/17: \$8,592

'18 to 02/28/18: \$9,553

**Up \$960 or 11.17%**

### Business License Fees

'17 to 02/28/17: \$8,150

'18 to 02/28/18: \$8,575

**UP \$425 or 5.21%**

### Building Permit Revenues

'17 to 02/28/17: \$80,735

'18 to 02/28/18: \$89,060

**UP \$8,325 or 10.31%**

### Planning Fee Revenues

'17 to 02/28/17: \$2325

'18 to 02/28/18: \$1750

**DOWN \$575 or -24.73%**

### SFR Permits YTD

'17 to 02/28/17: 20

'18 to 02/28/17: 21

### Multi-Family Permits (#units)

'17 to 02/28/17: 0

'18 to 02/28/18: 0

### Inspections YTD

'17 to 02/28/17: 231

'18 to 02/28/18: 146

### Appointment Openings

LTAC Member (Hotelier)

Ethics Boardmember (3)

Salary Commissioner

[www.monroewa.gov/vacancies](http://www.monroewa.gov/vacancies)

### Job Openings

Lateral Police Officer

[www.monroewa.gov/jobs](http://www.monroewa.gov/jobs)

(Ordinance continued) Stay Out of Drug Area (SODA) can be another tool to deter those who are using or selling drugs in the area, along with any related crimes.

The "Sitting or Lying Down on Public Sidewalks" ordinance addresses the City's interest in ensuring the safe and efficient flow of pedestrian traffic on public sidewalks near businesses. The ordinance would allow enforcement of individuals that are sitting or lying down on public sidewalks between the hours of 6 am and 2 am within 100 feet of a business. This enforcement would not be limited to a zone but it would apply to public sidewalks surrounding businesses through the City.



### Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve

At the Tuesday, March 20, 2018, City Council meeting, Mr. Wes Hilton and Mr. John VanDalen presented the City and Police Department with a Statement of Support for the Guard & Reserve. The City employs several individuals who are active members of the Guard or Reserve and I appreciate their service. Thank you for all you do!

### Thank You Troop 288!

Thank you to Tyler Williams of Boy Scout Troop 288 for leading the Pledge of Allegiance at the March 20, 2018, Council meeting. It is always a pleasure to have these young men come and lead the pledge.

## COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

The Tuesday, March 27, 2018, Monroe City Council Special Meeting/Workshop agenda item is 6-Year Strategic Plan; Vision 2050. Interested in Staff Reports? Click [here](#) for more information to learn what is happening in the different departments. For more information click here.

## CITY HAPPENINGS

### Mobile Stage Use Policy Adopted By City Council

At the Tuesday, March 20, 2018, the Monroe City Council adopted by resolution a usage policy for the City's mobile stage trailer that debuted at City events in 2017 such as the summer music concerts at Lake Tye Park. Benefits of the mobile stage include its versatility for use at multiple locations and events within the community. The establishment of a use policy and fees can allow for suitable rented uses of the stage during periods when the stage is not being used for City programs or events. For rental information, please contact our Parks & Recreation Department staff at either [djacobsen@monroewa.gov](mailto:djacobsen@monroewa.gov) or (360) 863-4559.

### 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

The 22nd Annual Monroe Community Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 31st at Lake Tye Park. The event kicks off at 9:00 a.m. with lots of fun, free activities including face painting, fun games, arts and crafts and pictures with the Easter Bunny. The actual Egg Hunt starts at 10:00 a.m. sharp! All kids up through 10 years of age welcome to hunt for eggs. Be sure not to miss this great fun, family-oriented event!



## Spring Clean-Up Event Scheduled For May 12<sup>th</sup>

It's that time of year again. As everyone is preparing for spring cleaning, the City of Monroe, in partnership with Republic Services, is hosting the annual spring clean-up event on May 12th from 9 am to 1 pm. The event will be held at Monroe High School, 17001 Tester Road.

To participate, you must be a garbage customer within our city limits. An event flyer/release form will be included with your April utility bill. This form must be presented on the day of event as proof of residency. Items which will be accepted include regular household garbage, furniture, and scrap metal. While not a complete list, hazardous waste, yard waste, construction debris, roofing materials, tires will not be accepted. Check the flyer for a list of what can and cannot be accepted at this event. The flyer information will also posted on our website at [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov) in April.

For further information regarding the spring clean-up event, contact Republic Services at 800-942-5965.

## New Scoreboard for Monroe Boys and Girls Club



Monroe Rotary President, Katy Woods presented a check for \$5,100 to Monroe Boys & Girls Club Unit Director Jeff Rasmussen for the purchase of a new scoreboard to be installed in the Club gym.

The new scoreboard is a larger LED scoreboard that will accomodate other sports including volleyball. Our hope is to have the new scoreboard installed and running in time for our Spring Volleyball games.

In addition to the scoreboard, President Woods also presented Director, Jeff Rasmussen with a check for \$3,000 to support our Annual Campaign for Kids. The annual Campaign for Kids supports scholarships and programs offered at the Monroe Club, ensuring that every child in Monroe has a fun and safe place to go before and after school.

Thank you Monroe Rotary for your continued support of the Monroe Boys & Girls Club and the kids that are served!